

(ARTICLE 19 AMENDMENTS)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REQUEST FOR SUBSTITUTION OF REPLACEMENT SHEETS**

Please substitute the attached replacement sheets 9-10 of the claims of the Article 19 Amendments for sheets 9-10 of the claims in the enclosed as-filed PCT application. It is respectfully requested that the claims in the substitute sheets be examined during examination of the patent application. Claims 1-8 are currently pending.

Respectfully submitted,

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DWH/FPD/blc

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## Amended claims under PCT article 19

1. A capacity detection type sensor element comprising:

a vibrating plate which is provided on a substrate;

5 a flat back electrode which is provided opposedly to said vibrating plate; and

10 a plurality of fixing portions which are provided adjoining to said vibrating plate without contacting to said vibrating plate, and have a predetermined length of edge at a side adjoining to said vibrating plate, wherein

said back electrode is held by said fixing portions in a state that space is provided between said back electrode and said vibrating plate, and

15 the shape of the outer edges of said back electrode which are not held by said adjoining fixing portions, is a predetermined shape located on substantially straight lines that connect said adjoining fixing portions with the shortest length or located on outside of said straight lines.

20 2. The capacity detection type sensor element according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined shape is a circular arc which has said shortest length between said adjoining fixing portions as a chord.

25 3. The capacity detection type sensor element according to claim 1, wherein ratio of the predetermined length A of said fixing portion and distance B of said opposing fixing portions is larger than 2/15.

30 4. The capacity detection type sensor element according to claim 3, wherein said ratio of the predetermined length A of said fixing portion and the distance B of said opposing fixing portions is equal to or larger than 4/15.

5. The capacity detection type sensor element according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of holes whose diameter is smaller than 20  $\mu\text{m}$ , are provided on said back electrode.

35 6. The capacity detection type sensor element according to claim 1,

wherein a plurality of holes whose diameter is smaller than 14  $\mu\text{m}$ , are provided on said back electrode.

5 7. The capacity detection type sensor element according to claim 1, wherein the shape of said fixing portion is a rectangle.

8. The capacity detection type sensor element according to claim 1, wherein the shape of said fixing portion is a triangle.